

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a tube with a compressible peripheral wall, wherein:

injection molding of an integral unfinished tube comprising a tube body, a tube shoulder and a tube outlet using a female die, a core and a neck mold;

demolding the unfinished tube by withdrawing the core while retaining the unfinished tube in the neck mold, and withdrawing the female die;

releasing the unfinished tube from the neck mold; and

flattening and closing the open end of the tube body.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a sheet or a sleeve is placed between the core and the female die and caused to contact the core or the female die.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a sheet is placed between the core and the neck mold and caused to contact the core or the neck mold.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein air is supplied through a blow line of the core to between the unfinished tube and the core to reduce adhesion to the core.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a demolding bevel of the female die is made larger than a demolding bevel of the core.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the female die or the core is provided with a slide coating.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the sheet or the sleeve is made of a material having high resistance against the material to be filled into the tube.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the sheet or the sleeve is made of a material impermeable to vapor, gas or solvent.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the sheet or the sleeve comprises a printed label or a decorative sheet.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the sheet or the sleeve is made from a plastically deformable material that counteracts the restoring property of the soft plastic material.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the core or a part thereof is supported at the neck mold during at least a part of the injection phase.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein in a first injection phase, conically centered webs support the core or a part thereof at the neck mold in a centering portion between the tube shoulder and the tube outlet, and, in a fill-up phase, the core or a part thereof is held spaced from the centering portion to fill the portions held free by the webs during the injection phase.

13. (Previously Presented) A tube produced according to the method of claim 1, wherein ribs are formed near the tube shoulder.

14. (Withdrawn) A tube produced according to the method of claim 1, wherein grooves are provided near the tube shoulder to hold the unfinished tube when the injection mold is opened, and that a portion of reduced wall thickness is provided adjoining the grooves.